

**Commission on Aging  
Public Policy Committee  
October 23, 2023, 11:30 – 1:00  
By Zoom**

Attendees: Commissioners Wayne Berman, Morris Klein, David Engel, Rena Eichler, Ryan Wilson; Staff Peter Flandrau

Co-chair Ryan Wilson welcomed everyone and attendees provided introductions for the new commissioner on the call. Ryan noted that the minutes from 9-14-23 were not available. David offered to send them to the Chair post meeting.

Peter provided a staff report about the focus on hiring in HHS. The AAA Director position is open while Kimberly Johnson is Acting. The Marketing and Outreach broker position is open.

David testified on October 12, 2023 in front of the Council HHS committee which is Gabe Albornoz, Dawn Luedke, and Laurie Ann Sayles. David reported that the presentation went well and by attending the BCC testimony on the 11<sup>th</sup>, he was able to strengthen the Budget Priorities requests by referencing examples of Councilmembers concerns about communications issues.

Peter discussed that he did not know about current budget cuts but that future new programs could be hard to justify once the future (FY25) budget is determined. Ryan noted that PG County has experienced some revenue decline causing some current year budget setbacks.

The Committee discussed the Montgomery County Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) report on the Nursing Home Oversight issue published in July. The Committee will explore any County effort to follow up on the report. And the Committee will send the report as part of the package going to Legislators for the Legislative Breakfast in December.

Ryan provided an overview of the Commission's advocacy at the Federal, State and Local levels as a prelude to the discussion of the Legislative Breakfast. The Legislative breakfast will be scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup> and to use December 14<sup>th</sup> as a backup date. Ryan will update the agenda from 2022. The Committee decided to use the same format as 2022 with a change on the Agenda for Wayne to discuss the 2023 Technology to Age in Place Public Forum and for David to provide remarks on the accomplishments of the CoA. The send ahead documents will include the 1) Briefing Book 2) OLO Nursing Home Oversight report 3) Tech to Age in Place report 4) Life Transitions as we Age report. At the next Public Policy meeting, a rehearsal will be held for the Legislative Breakfast.

David noted that Maryland issued a Press Release (<https://bit.ly/3F6QGnT>) recently announced revisions to the State of Maryland's 2023 Qualified Allocation Plan (the "QAP") and Multifamily Rental Financing Program Guide (the "Guide"). These documents outline Maryland's affordable housing priorities and create the rules by which project applications are scored to receive additional state funds. He noted that the AIC Committee will be following this issue since it adds Universal Design requirements to get funding. He said the CoA should request from the County Council (*and DHCA*) how this change will impact new construction in Montgomery County.

Meeting adjourned.